

I CLAIM:

1. A method of determining the best image of a child, the method comprising:
  - 1) accepting images of children from any time since the inception of photography;
  - 2) displaying publicly the accepted images; and
  - 3) accepting votes from the general public on the images.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the following step after step 1) and prior to step 2):
  - 1.5) filtering unacceptable photographs.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the following step after step 3):
  - 4) weighting votes as a function of desired data return.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step 1.5) of accepting images of children furthermore comprises charging a variable entry fee as a function of desired data return.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step 2) of displaying the accepted images furthermore comprises displaying the images at a frequency determined as a function of desired data return.
6. A method of holding a contest comprising:

determining the best image of a child from any time since the inception of photography.

7. A method comparing images of children comprising:

providing a reception device capable of accepting from contestants photographs of

5 children from any time since the inception of photography;

providing a filtering device capable of filtering out unacceptable photographs, wherein

photographs of children from any time since the inception of photography are acceptable;

displaying publicly accepted photographs;

providing a voting device capable of accepting and counting votes from viewers; and

10 providing publicly a vote count of the photographs,

whereby photographs of children from any time since the inception of photography may

be compared by means of a poll.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein:

15 the reception device further comprises an Internet website device having a first module  
programmed to accept images uploaded by contestants;

the step of displaying publicly the accepted pictures further comprises displaying them  
publically on the Internet website;

20 the voting device further comprises a second module programmed to accept votes made  
by viewers of the Internet website device; and

the step of providing publically a vote count further comprises displaying the vote count  
on the Internet website.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein  
the step of displaying publicly the accepted pictures further comprises displaying them  
publically on a television show;  
the voting device further comprises a two-way television control module programmed to  
5 accept votes made by viewers of the television show; and  
the step of providing publically a vote count further comprises displaying the vote count  
on the television show.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein  
10 the step of displaying publicly the accepted pictures further comprises displaying them  
publically on a television show;  
the voting device further comprises a telephone number having a DTMF input module  
programmed to accept votes made by viewers of the television show; and  
the step of providing publically a vote count further comprises displaying the vote count  
15 on the television show.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the unacceptable photographs are selected from the set  
consisting only of: photographs not of children at the time the photograph is taken,  
indecent photographs, photographs which are not flattering to the child pictured, and  
20 combinations thereof.

12. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:  
selling advertising space to advertisers; and  
displaying said advertising space at one time selected from the group consisting of: the  
time of accepting from contestants images of children, the time of publically displaying  
the images, the time of providing a voting device capable of accepting and counting votes  
from viewers; and the time of providing publicly a vote count of the images.

13. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:  
awarding to the contestants a prize based upon the final result of the voting.

14. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:  
awarding to the individuals whose childhood image is displayed publically a prize based  
upon the public display.

15. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:  
after the termination of the contest, maintaining the accepted pictures in a database  
accessible to the general public.